THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Social welfare schemes for beedi workers in Rajasthan

1597. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of beedi workers who have received benefit under Social Welfare Schemes in Rajasthan;

(b) the details of the benefits received by them, indicating the cost thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that better implementation of Social Welfare Schemes is needed;

(d) if so, the details of the changes proposed;

(e) whether Child Labour is employed for beedi manufacture; and

(f) if so, what steps have been taken to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) (i) Total 31,736 beedi workers are identified in Rajasthan State.

(ii) Total 3,15,402 beedi workers and their dependents have been benefited during the year 2005-06 as under:

(a) Total patients treated in LWO dispensaries—284171

(b) Workers covered under Group Insurance Scheme—20000

(c) Benefit granted under other various welfare schemes—506

(b) The details of benefits given during the year 2005-06 are enclosed as Statement. (*See* below)

(c) and (d) All efforts are made to ensure appropriate implementation of the schemes. However, from time to time changes are brought about as per the need of the hour.

(e) and (f) Employment of children in Beedi Industry is already prohibited under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The State Governments are "appropriate" Governments for implementation of the Act. Children found working in this occupation are withdrawn from the work and put in special schools being run under the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme where the children are provided with education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend and health-care facilities.

Statement

Details of the benefits given to beedi workers during the year 2005-2006.

S.No.	Name of Schemes	Year 2005-06	
		Physical	Financial
1	2	3	4
	A. Health Schemes		
1.	No. of Patients treated	284171	17,15,000
2.	Treatment of Workers for Cancer	01	9,000
3.	Purchase of Spectacles	45	7,000
4.	Maternity Benefit scheme	189	1,89,000
5.	Treatment of Heart & Kidney disease	03	15,000
6.	Workers covered under Group Insurance Scheme & premium paid	20000	2,50,000
7.	Death cases settled under Group Insurance Scheme	03	30,000
8.	Financial Assistance to the Widow of Beedi Workers for marriage of their daughter	05	25,000
	B. Educational Schemes		
9.	Grant of Scholarship to Children of Workers	6308	61,74,000

1	2	3	4
10.	Supply of one set of Uniform/Text Book	4239	10,60,000
	C. Recreational Schemes		
11.	Organisation of social/Cultural/ Sports Activities	02	20,000
12.	Exibition of Film Show	04	1,000
	D. Housing Schemes		
13.	Sanction received from HQ and BYOH Scheme	81	—
14.	Installments paid	38	5,24,000
15.	Sanction received from HQ under EWS Scheme	173	

Low wages to contract labourers in PSUs

1598. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether contract workers/labourers employed in various PSUs are paid very low wages in comparison to the permanent workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have taken any steps to protect the interests of contract workers in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Central Government is appropriate Government only for Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) engaged in Mining, Railways, Insurance, Banks, Major Ports and controlled industries. There have been instances where contract workers of CPSUs are paid wages less than the regular workers of CPSUs. Wherever contract labourers are found to do same and similar nature of work done by regular worker of CPSUs, the matter is taken up